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Probation among adults is used most extensively in non-support and domestic relations cases. Twenty-seven per cent of all adults placed on probation last year were for non-support. A total of \$169,501 was collected by probation officers last year and paid over to the wives and children of non-supporting husbands, \$75,000 was collected in instalment fines and restitution to injured parties.

The commission recommends:

1. The employment of efficient, salaried probation officers appointed under the civil service in every city and county of the state. Wherever possible both men and women probation officers should be employed, the women to deal with girls and women, and the male officers with men and older boys.

2. The salaries of probation officers should be increased considerably over the amounts now paid so as to attract experienced and efficient persons to this service. Probation officers should give their entire time to their work, not as now in some cases be obliged to carry on other work in order to support themselves.

3. County probation officers should be given necessary traveling expenses and clerical assistance so that they may cover all parts of their districts. Wherever possible special officers should be employed to carry on probation work in the towns and villages.

4. Clinics for the mental and physical examination of delinquents should be made available to all courts. These examinations together with the social investigations of the probation officers should lead to greater discrimination in dealing with delinquents and the segregation of those unable to take care of themselves in society.—Charles L. Chute, Sec'y, N. Y. Probation Commission, Albany, N. Y.

Proceedings of the Delinquency Section of the Commonwealth Club of California.—At a meeting of the Delinquency Section of the Commonwealth Club of California, held Thursday, February 14, 1918, at 7 o'clock p. m., the work of the section was discussed and the lines of endeavor blocked out. It is hoped that the members who have not yet engaged in specific work of the section will find in the proposed activities some line of work in which they can participate. This letter is sent also to persons interested in the subject and it is hoped many of them will be able to join in the work of the section, whether members of the club or not. It is also requested that the members get others who are interested to take part in the work of the section to the end that the plans agreed on shall not fail of execution for want of co-operation. In the scheme of the Commonwealth Club the Delinquency Section has entire jurisdiction of the subject of delinquency and everything connected with criminal law and criminology, except criminal procedure. The section was greatly indebted to Mr. Justice Wilbur of the Supreme Court of the State of California for valuable suggestions. In the discussion, which was participated in by Messrs. Oliver, Bank, Keane, Vollmer, Schneider and Kidd, the need of a comprehensive plan was strongly urged—a plan to work up to like that adopted by the city, a plan into which each separate activity would find a proper place. The following suggestions have been made:

A.—GENERAL MEASURES

1. A radical revision of the penal code, eliminating the arbitrary historical distinction between felonies and misdemeanors with the attendant consequences,

and classifying crimes more nearly in accordance with the dangerous tendency of the criminal.

2. An extension of the plan of which a beginning has already been made in California in establishing a clearing house for criminals where, after a thorough and comprehensive physical, mental and social examination of the delinquent, he would be passed on to the state institution—prison, factory, farm, home for inebriates, insane asylum, etc.—best suited to his needs and kept until it may become safe to permit a return to society. This plan was tried in Ohio, but abandoned because the enforcement of it was put into the hands of politicians. An effort, however, is being made to re-establish it there and much along the same line is being done in New York.

3. A municipal court as in Chicago and Cincinnati, with full power to handle before the same judge every question involved in a domestic relations case.

4. A more effective organization of charity work, so that duplication and waste may be prevented and the criminal and hopeless delinquent segregated and effectively controlled.

B.—PARTICULAR MEASURES

1. Public defender. This has been approved by the section in previous years, but there is some question as to the constitutionality of the bill as presented at the last legislature. Amendment thereof may be necessary.

2. The restoration of the Napa Farm for the purpose for which it was intended—a farm for first offenders. This plan has had the unanimous endorsement not only of the section but of the Club in public meeting.

3. Woman referee in connection with the juvenile courts. This plan has been highly successful in Los Angeles.

4. The jail problem. For the solution of this problem attention should be directed toward state farms, road work and other occupation, preferably under state control.

5. The treatment of the insane.

(a) A psychopathic hospital in San Francisco and possibly the taking over by the state of the Los Angeles psychopathic work. The need is most urgent for hospitals for the examination and temporary treatment of the insane and those liable to become insane. The experience of Los Angeles has shown that by preventive treatment taken in time the number of commitments to the state institutions is enormously reduced and the state thereby saved a large sum of money. The existing state hospitals could be used for this purpose in many parts of the state.

(b) Probation offices for the insane; also for the feeble-minded. These have been very successful where tried.

6. Feeble-minded. Provision for morons, particularly those who come before the juvenile courts.

7. Police.

(a) Standards of training.

(b) Classification of crimes and keeping of proper statistics.

8. Extension of the plan in the treatment of juvenile criminals of the combination of a long sentence with probation to the Preston School until twenty-one, the future then being dependent on the conduct of the criminal.

The foregoing is not intended as exclusive of other lines of activity in which anyone may be interested. In the prosecution of the work five things are necessary:

1. Collection of the facts.
2. Determination of the advisability of the proposal.
3. Drafting of the law where that is necessary.
4. Getting the law through by publicity, etc.
5. Following up the administration of the law.

It is hoped that each one will find some line of work to his liking and will immediately notify the chairman of the section what he is able and willing to do so that the organization may be completed promptly and the work started.

This notification may be made by putting a cross on the duplicate copy enclosed herewith, opposite the number of the specific work in which the member desires to participate, and signing his name.

In deciding on a program for legislative activity before the next legislature, it would be well to keep in mind the present financial burdens and to concentrate on the most necessary work that can be accomplished at the least expense.—A. M. Kidd, Chairman of Section on Delinquency, Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, Cal., May 11, 1918.

Child Delinquency and the War.—At the end of the first year of the war, it is becoming possible to see that in more than one part of the country juvenile delinquency is increasing. The figures showing increases in England and Germany during the first year or two of hostilities have already become familiar. [See "Delinquency in War Time" in the *Survey* for August 25, 1917. See also the article by Edith Abbott in the last number of this JOURNAL (May, 1918).] Apparently, the United States is having the same experience. The information at hand is scattered and meager, but suggestive.

The latest facts are supplied by the eleventh annual report of the New York State Probation Commission, recently published. The commission finds that the number of young girls placed on probation from the courts of the state began to increase markedly at about the time that the United States entered the war, and that the number has remained abnormally large ever since. This increase is due, it is said, "to greatly increased temptations to young girls about soldiers' camps and to the attractiveness of the uniform. Probation officers have kept busy in certain localities dealing with 'girl-and-soldier' cases." During the statistical year ending June 30, 1917, a total of 21,847 persons were placed on probation, an increase of 13 per cent over the number placed the year before. The greatest increases were shown among young girls and men. The commission points out the need for increased supervision of amusements, the prevention of the promiscuous meeting of young girls and strange soldiers, and the immediate need for more probation officers, especially women, to deal with these cases.

The statement has been made by A. C. Crouse, chief officer of the Court of Domestic Relations of Hamilton County, Ohio, which contains Cincinnati, that juvenile delinquency had increased 21 per cent in that county since the United States entered the war. It is interesting to note that during the first three months of 1917 there was an actual falling off of cases before the juvenile division of the court, compared with the same three months of the year before. From April 1 to November 1, however, there were 384 cases as compared with 316 during the same period in 1916. The Juvenile Protective Association reports a decided increase also.